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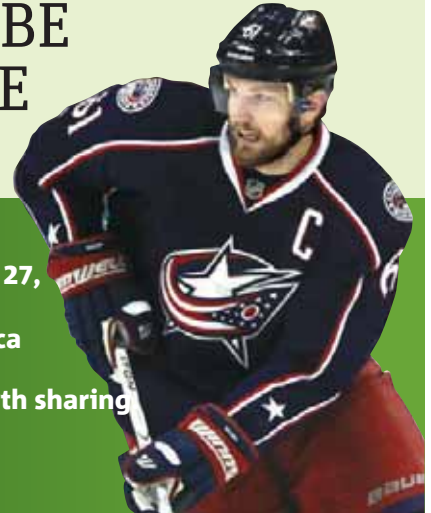
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**DEADLY DERAILMENT
THREE TRAIN
WORKERS KILLED
IN ONTARIO** {page 10}



NHL'S D-DAY
WHO MIGHT BE
ON THE MOVE
TODAY? {page 25}



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Monday, February 27,
2012

www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing

Transit strike end not in the cards

- ▶ Even those at local psychic fair offering opinions on impasse
- ▶ One astrologer says many asking her when will it finally end



**PHILIP
CROUCHER**
@METRONEWS.CA

When all else fails, call in the experts.

With no end in sight to the transit strike, Metro Halifax went calling on the clairvoyant on Sunday to see when this dispute affecting tens of thousands will finally come to an end.

Whether it was a crystal ball, tarot cards, the planets or intuition, the news doesn't look good.

"Three seems to stick out to me, three to four weeks from now," said George LeBlanc, a self-described intuitive psychic medium with Inner Spirit Connections in Halifax. "And that's because that's what it's going to take for them to understand nobody is going to win.... There is no win-win situation for this. No one is going to be happy."

The latest glimmer of hope to a resolution went up in a puff of smoke on Friday when the transit union voted down the munic-

ipality's latest contract offer.

Some brilliant minds saw this coming before even one vote was cast, too.

"I knew they weren't going to accept it. It was the feeling I had inside," declared LeBlanc, one of several dozen participants at the annual Holistic and Psychic Fair at Cole Harbour Place on Sunday.

Holly Poole, an astrologer with Healing in Motion in Lower Sackville, was also offering the same point of view. She knew the vote wasn't going to go well because there

were "too many oppositions going on with the planetary alignments."

As to when the strike will be over, Poole says mid-April, once the not-so-good "planet retrograde" is over.

"The 14th or 15th of April is when that turns around," she explained. "They may be mandated back to work, but the actual contract will not be finished until then."

But finally, hope from Contessa Crystal. From Day 1, the local psychic sensed the strike would be over on March 9 — and after looking through her crystal ball again Sunday — is sticking to it.

"But if it gets done any sooner, that's fine with me."



▶ Contessa Crystal peers into her crystal ball to get her prediction on the transit strike on Sunday.

More on
the strike
{page 3}

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



▶ Meryl Streep arrives at the 84th Annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles on Sunday night.

KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

Looking great in gold

The veteran actress came away from Hollywood's big night with another Oscar win for her role as Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady*. For more on show, see pages 17-18.

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DEVELOPING LEADERS IN ENERGY

'Members want quality of life': Union head

► Ken Wilson looking to talk directly to council after union votes down HRM's latest offer ► No talks scheduled as strike enters its fourth week



The director of Metro Transit says he's surprised the Amalgamated Transit Union was surprised to find rostering still on the table in HRM's latest final offer.

The Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508, which represents 750 striking transit workers, voted 78 per cent to reject the municipality's "final offer" on Friday.



"If the employer wants to go back to the table and negotiate properly, instead of council bypassing us and going to the membership, we're more than (willing) to go back to the negotiating table."

KEN WILSON, PRESIDENT, LOCAL 508

"We were disappointed by the outcome of the vote. We anticipated a different outcome," Eddie Robar, Metro Transit's director, said on Sunday.

The deal, which included a \$1,500 one-time payout and nine per cent raises over five years, included rostering — which would remove workers' ability to



► Amalgamated Transit Union members walk the picket line at the Dartmouth Bridge Terminal in this photo taken earlier this month. The strike is entering Day 26 on Monday.

choose their own schedules based on seniority.

Robar said the deal would cost the municipality about \$14 million over five years — but if the cost offsets like rostering are taken into account, it works out to about \$5.8 million.

Ken Wilson, the president of Local 508, said his membership was somewhat more comfortable

with the wording around rostering. But in the end it wasn't enough.

"The executive told the members that it's their vote. It's a democratic process, we didn't tell them either way. You vote with your heart, you vote with your family," Wilson told reporters after the vote results were announced on Friday at the Halifax Forum. "The members want

quality of life. There's other ways to look at these 85 pieces of open work than rostering. And for some reason, council doesn't listen and management doesn't listen. We can fix this."

The union has suggested binding arbitration — an imposed settlement — is a viable option. Robar said the municipality has no intention of offering a fourth final offer.

more and more agitated with every offer that gets turned down by the union. Let's make a deal and let's get back to work.

JASON BURKE, DARTMOUTH

Ken Wilson, you want quality of life? First, I want you to justify your shift-picking demands and your outrageous salary to

police, firemen, nurses and teachers, who make less than you and work shift-work without getting their say in it.

Then tell the taxpayers why we should pay for you to get such a ridiculous pay on us. After you can do that with a straight face, let me know.

SEAN DEWITT, DARTMOUTH

Reader comments



We asked those on social media when they think the strike will end or if they even care anymore?

Twitter

- **@HalleyPal:** I don't know if it's that I've stopped caring or that I've learned to go without. Either way Transit has lost a passenger.
- **@smoothALIPHANT:** I can't afford 2 stop caring about the strike. All available funds are now spent on getting to and from work thx
- **@JacalynWhite:** I have a car, but take the bus to save money. My friends are hurting to get to work/school. binding arbitration is needed.
- **@JamMac75:** Everyday I hope it ends. People are suffering in lots of ways. It's been really hard on my depression.
- **@frodo87:** hoping it will end by early March. Whenever it does, it'll take years for ridership rates to recover.
- **@ShyTownJarvis:** So over the bus strike. Probably just going to buy a car with my income tax. #BusStrike
- **@OpalGirl2810:** Still stranded, still frustrated, and I don't see an end anytime soon #halifax #transitstrike

Facebook

- **Stacie Loverin:** I've lost interest in the transit strike and don't really care how long it takes for them to get back to work. I plan to continue to walk when they do come back, saves money and it's better for me.
- **Donald Coakley:** It's not going to end until the end of March or after the Easter weekend. Hope the city do not offer them another offer or wait until they are hungry for a pay check.
- **Sherri Bain:** Yes, I care. No car, and I still need to eat, go to appointments, and university every week day morning. This isn't just about the ATU and HRM anymore. I'm tired of being held hostage by their inability to get this done. Bring in someone who can! Please.

1

news



Call her the eco-warrior princess: Actress Lucy Lawless has been arrested for her involvement in a Greenpeace protest aboard an oil-drilling ship. Scan the code.

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A bird's-eye view of the train derailment west of Toronto that killed three Via Rail workers. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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Letters

I would like to voice my opinion on the transit strike that not only affects myself but also 95,000 other people in this city.

I have been walking an hour to work and an hour back home for three weeks now and I have had mixed feelings on the

whole situation.

I have mixed emotions because I walk and have lost weight, actually lost 12 pounds in the past three weeks. On the other hand I feel the transit workers are being a bunch of babies with the whole scheduling thing. Either way, the commuters of this city are becoming

On Stage



► Pierre Bouvier, frontman for the Canadian pop-punk band Simple Plan, performs with his bandmates at the Metro Centre on Sunday night. Marianas Trench and All Time Low opened the show.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Simple Plan performs in Halifax

Council to receive YMCA-project proposal

► Design review committee, municipal staff split on facility ► YMCA project would be the second exception to HRMbyDesign in two weeks



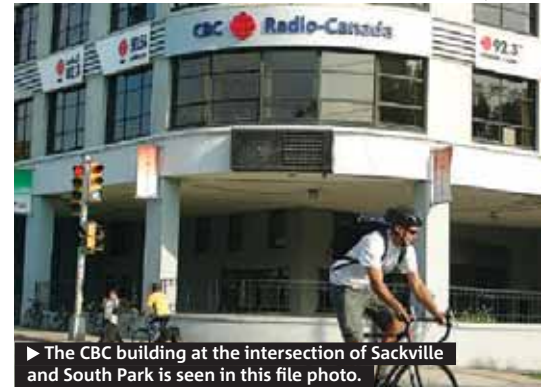
ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

A week after an animated debate over approving the Skye Halifax project, Halifax regional council is once again being asked to consider overriding municipal-planning documents.

Council will receive a report on a proposal from the YMCA to redevelop the current CBC building at the corner of South Park and Sackville streets on Tuesday. The proposed project, a mixed-use facility with two residential towers, would be 46 metres tall — exactly double the height allowed under municipal planning documents.

The municipality's design review committee said that's simply too high.

"While a minor variation of height might be considered, a doubling of the height is too much of a variation to be allowed to proceed," the committee wrote in a Nov. 16, 2011 report.



► The CBC building at the intersection of Sackville and South Park is seen in this file photo.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

The committee was also concerned that, by providing exceptions to HRMbyDesign on a case-by-case basis, council would be encouraging "spot zoning" that "makes a mockery" of the vision for downtown laid out in planning documents.

But senior municipal staff are recommending council approve the project, noting it would bring "significant economic, social and cultural benefits to HRM."

"There is a strong urban-design rationale in permitting greater height

at the corner of South Park and Sackville streets, as an entrance to the downtown," the staff report, submitted by CAO Richard Butts, reads.

That remains to be seen, as far as Connaught-Quinpool Coun. Jennifer Watts is concerned.

"That's what I think we have before us right now," Watts said Sunday.

"I would like to know a little bit more about what (staff) based that on."



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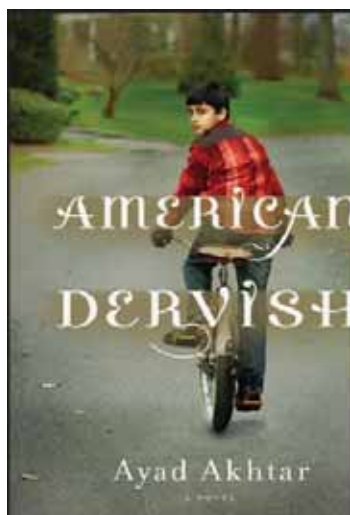
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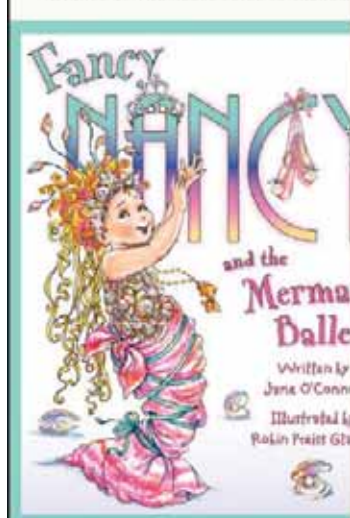
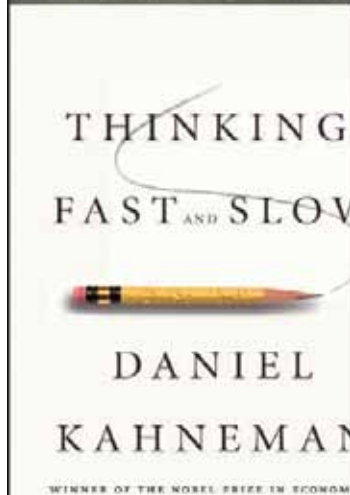
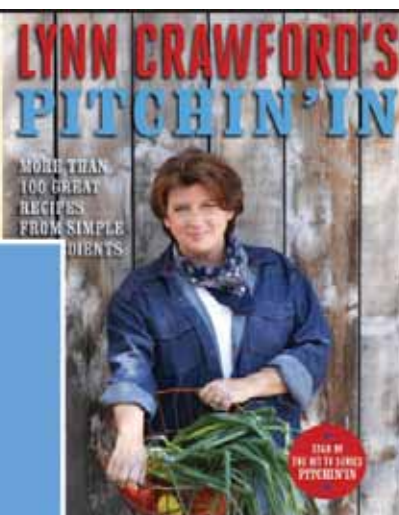
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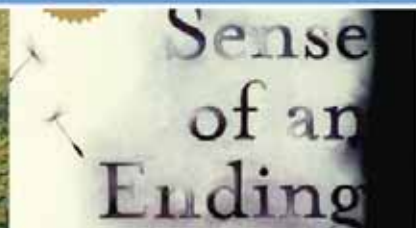
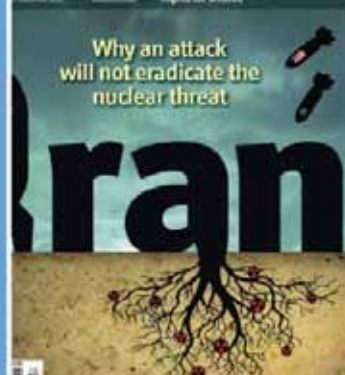
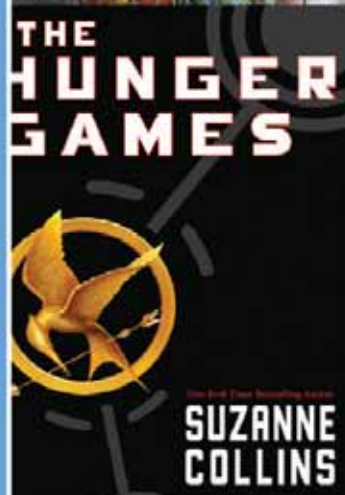
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News in brief



► Ross Landry

RCMP, province agree on police contract

Nova Scotia and the federal government have reached a final agreement to renew the province's RCMP policing contract for another 20 years.

Federal Public Safety Minister Vic Toews issued a statement saying the agreement gives Nova Scotia increased input into controlling costs and standards. On Friday, Nova Scotia Justice Minister Ross Landry issued a state-

ment saying the province's new agreement with Ottawa gives the province more control over staffing levels and building detachments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Highway crash kills woman

A woman is dead following a collision between a car and a tractor-trailer Saturday morning in the Marshy Hope area on Highway 104. RCMP say a 45-year-old woman was pronounced dead at the scene. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Standoff ends peacefully

A standoff that lasted more than 20 hours at a house in Weymouth ended peacefully over the weekend. RCMP Const. Dal Hutchinson says the man surrendered without incident just before 7 a.m. Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Regional plan to be reviewed

► Expected to be complete in 2013 ► Centres around four main themes

ALEX BOUTILLIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Halifax regional council is being asked to start a sweeping year-long review of the municipality's regional plan.

The plan, a comprehensive planning document outlining growth and development rules, was adopted in 2006, and requires a review every five years.

Council approved the scope of the review in 2011, indicating they don't want a re-write, but an "issue and opportunities-based review," according to a staff report coming before council on Tuesday.

The report states the review will revolve around four main themes: sustainability, enhancing the regional centre, improving suburban and rural community design, and inte-



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

► Downtown Halifax as seen from the Fenwick Tower.

grating land-use bylaws with transit and active transportation goals.

"The review of the region's 'blueprint for growth' is both timely and critically important, given emerging opportunities and challenges," reads the report.

The review is taking place in conjunction with what staff are calling the Centre Plan, a document

that will govern growth in the urban core, replacing the current regional centre municipal-planning strategy.

That plan will focus on "the provision of complete walkable communities, protection of the scale and character of existing neighbourhoods, and removing barriers to well-designed and appropriately scaled development."

\$520,057
The amount of money earmarked for the regional plan review, dubbed RP+5, and the Centre Plan.

Both the review and the new centre plan require hefty amounts of public consultation, which the report calls "imperative" to their success.

That public consultation will take place sometime between March and April. The report also suggests engaging people through social media, including Twitter and Facebook, in order to gather responses on what needs to be changed.

The Centre Plan is scheduled to be delivered to council in September, while the review of the regional plan is expected to be complete in March 2013.

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9999 Canada Maple leaf, less than 1 ounce	\$54.23/g
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22k	\$36.60/g
E. Indian/Nuggets	\$32.44/g
18k	\$29.97/g
14k and dental	\$23.29/g
10k	\$16.62/g
9k	\$14.98/g
8k/antique gold	\$9.99/g
Silver Maple Leaf (sealed)	\$34.08/coin
Stamped Sterling Silver Flatware	\$0.74/g
Platinum (950 purity)	\$37.34/g

Gold Coin and Bar Buying Prices Karat | Price/gram

Canada 1 ounce (9999) Maple Leaf Coins (sealed)	\$1,686.43
Canada 1 ounce (999) Maple Leaf Coins (sealed)	\$1,657.43
Canada Maple leaf, less than 1 ounce	\$54.23/g
Canada \$100 1976 (22kt)	\$727.83
Canada \$100 1976 (14kt)	\$363.91
Canada \$100 1977-1986	\$727.83
Canada \$100 1987-2010	\$363.91
China Panda (1 ounce)	\$1,704.18/coin
Mexico 50 pesos	\$1,755.08
USA Gold Eagle (1 ounce)	\$1,455.66
South Africa Kruggerand (1 ounce)	\$1,455.66
Sovereign	\$342.66
Other Recognized 999 Coins and Bars	\$52.51/g
Other Gold coins less than 24kt	\$46.81/g of pure gold content

Gold Bars | Price/gram

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Gold 10 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$16,242.98
Gold 1kg (sealed, recognized)	\$52,221.19
Gold bars, less than 1 ounce (recognized)	\$52.23/g
999 Gold bar (Unrecognized)	\$50.80/g



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Maple Leaf (1 ounce Silver, Sealed)	\$34.08/coin
1966 and Earlier: dimes, quarters, half-dollars, dollars*	Approximate price: \$16.04 per dollar facevalue Exact price: \$0.69/g
1967: dimes, quarters, half-dollars, dollars*	Approximate price: \$12.99 per dollar facevalue Exact price: \$0.56/g
1968: non-magnetic dimes and quarters*	Approximate price: \$9.94 per dollar facevalue Exact price: \$0.43/g
1976: Montreal Olympic \$10 Coin	\$38.58

United States Coins | Price

US Eagle (1 ounce Silver, Sealed)	\$34.08
1964 and Earlier: dimes, quarters, half-dollars, dollars*	Approximate price: \$19.30 per dollar facevalue Exact price: \$0.79/g
1965-1970 US Half-dollars	\$3.89

Silver Bars | Price

Silver 1 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$33.02
Silver 10 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$326.63
Silver 20 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$649.72
Silver 50 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$1,624.30
Silver 100 ounce (sealed, recognized)	\$3,230.84
Silver bar (Unrecognized)	\$0.95/g

Silver Jewellery and Other Silver | Price

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Stamped Sterling Silver Jewellery	\$0.68/g
Mexican Silver stamped 925	\$0.57/g
Stamped 800 Silver	\$0.55/g
Unstamped scrap silver	\$0.37/g
Other silver coins	\$0.78/g

*Actual buying prices are based on weight of silver content, which is lower for worn coins.

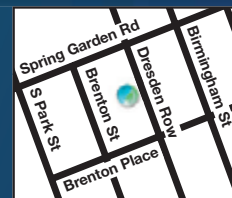
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Dartmouth man sentenced to 14 years

► Man apologizes for NYE stabbing death ► With credit for time served, sentence amounts to 12 years

A Dartmouth man has been handed a 14-year prison sentence for the stabbing death of Jonathan Beaton at a New Year's Eve party.

Robert Harris Lamb, 22, will receive 30 months credit for time served. Facing a second-degree murder charge, he pleaded guilty to manslaughter last week.

Beaton, 25 at the time of his death, was stabbed to death after fights broke out at a house party on College Street in Antigonish on Jan. 1, 2010. He sustained two serious knife wounds to his abdomen.

Lamb came to the party with two other friends from Dartmouth and met with another friend who had both Dartmouth and



► Robert Harris Lamb

"This thing came to pass because a group of metro thugs brought their culture of violence to (Antigonish)."

JUDGE JOSEPH KENNEDY

Antigonish connections. One of those friends was

wearing a bulletproof vest and another had a handgun.

In addition to Beaton, Josh MacKeigan was also seriously stabbed twice that night and others sustained less serious injuries.

Lamb apologized for his actions during his sentencing on Friday in Pictou, saying that he knew what he did couldn't be forgiven.

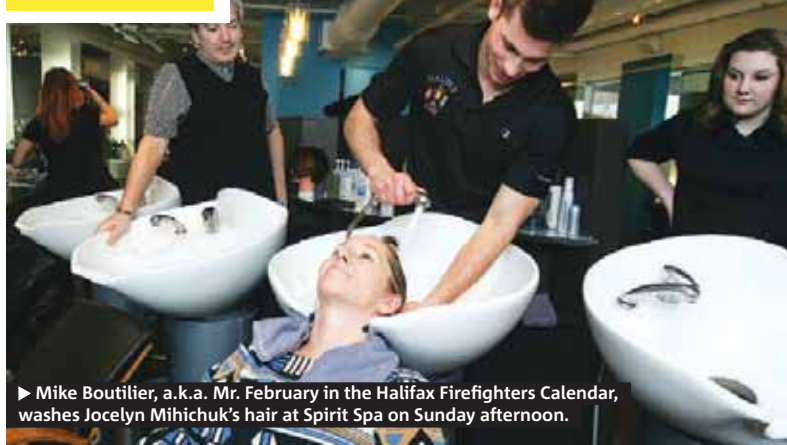
"I never meant for this to happen," he said.

Judge Joseph Kennedy said he hoped Lamb would use his prison time to "try to become a complete man."

"You have been missing a piece," he said. "There is something dramatically, seriously wrong with you."

NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Model. Hair wash



► Mike Boutilier, a.k.a. Mr. February in the Halifax Firefighters Calendar, washes Jocelyn Mihichuk's hair at Spirit Spa on Sunday afternoon.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Firefighters shampoo for charity

The salon was hosting a cut-a-thon to raise about \$4,000 for the Nova Scotia Firefighters Burn Treatment Society and the Canadian Cancer Society.

Police probe fatal house fire

RCMP are investigating after a fatal house fire in Malagash.

The cause of the Saturday blaze has not been determined, but police say

there is nothing to indicate the fire is suspicious.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Derailment claims 3 Via workers

DAVID RITCHIE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Engineers killed while riding in cab of locomotive ► 45 were injured

A slight bump followed by people and luggage flying through the air is how one passenger is describing a train derailment Sunday west of Toronto that killed three Via employees and left three passengers with severe injuries.

The time between the train leaving the tracks and the crash was only about 10 seconds, but it felt like "forever," said Deanna Villela of Welland, Ont.

Villela was among 75 passengers travelling on train No. 92 to Toronto from Niagara Falls, Ont., along the busy rail corridor when the train left the tracks around 3:30 p.m. Area residents described a chaotic scene of emergency vehicles, sirens blaring and helicopters buzzing overhead. The locomotive and one passenger car flipped onto their sides and crashed

into a small trackside building. All six cars derailed, a Via official said.

The three dead were Via engineers who were riding in the locomotive. A fourth Via worker in the locomotive was also injured.

Amid the twisted metal and debris, emergency crews scrambled to pull passengers to safety. Some passengers were carried away on boards and stretchers while others, looking dazed and battered, were led out of the wreckage by emergency workers.

"There's no question it's very tragic. We're a relatively small company, we're a family, we know everyone by name," Via chief operating officer John Marginson said at the scene. "We certainly feel for the families of the colleagues that we lost."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Emergency workers help passengers out of a train wreck in Burlington, Ont., Sunday. Via spokeswoman Michelle Lamarche said three of the company's employees were killed in the crash. Inset: An aerial view of the train derailment.

False robocalls made in 34 ridings, Martin claims

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

The robocall controversy appears to be broadening, with opposition parties claiming the number of ridings affected by voter-suppression calls in the last federal election is greater than first thought.

New Democrat MP Pat Martin says he is aware of at least 34 ridings that received automated phone calls, although his party lists only 29.

Meanwhile, Liberal

Leader Bob Rae said his party is aware of 27 ridings, but he expects the number to rise by Monday, when the House of Commons resumes.

The opposition are accusing the Harper Conservatives of orchestrating a campaign of dirty tricks in the May 2 election, but the Conservatives have denied the charges.

Elections Canada and police are currently believed



to be looking into reports that automated calls in as many as 18 ridings falsely advised voters that the location of their polling stations had changed. Martin says he is firm on his number and has since heard of two more ridings, but was not yet adding them to his list.

Lawyers for RackNine Inc., an Edmonton-based automated dialling company that worked on the Conservative campaign, has

Do-not-call lists

► Political parties are exempt from the do-not-call list regime and they aren't subject to privacy laws either. It's a growing policy concern, privacy and technology law experts say.

sent a letter to Martin demanding an apology or face a defamation suit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fat cat gains celebrity status

Losing weight is hard enough, but try doing it with the world watching and when you'd rather be dreaming of mice.

Tiny, a very large and lovable grey house cat, has become an international celebrity since he was left in a box outside the Fredrickton SPCA on Dec. 30. But no one at the shelter was quite prepared for a cat the size of Tiny, or the

media attention he has received since.

"We thought someone was bringing in donations, such as computer paper or newspaper," said LeeAnn Haggerty, the SPCA's education co-ordinator. "Then we heard the box meow."

He weighed 13.7 kilograms.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVID SMITH/THE CANADIAN PRESS



'Chlorine incident' sends kids to hospital

It was supposed to be a busy day at the Cariboo Memorial Recreation Complex where dozens of kids were getting ready for a swim meet Sunday morning when suddenly they started smelling "something weird."

The fumes, caused by what authorities called "a chlorine incident," forced the evacuation of the complex in Williams Lake, B.C.,

and sent 70 people to hospital, the majority of them children.

"People just said, 'You've got to get out,'" said Abbi Taylor, a 17-year-old swim coach who was there.

She said the kids, who were mostly under the age of 12, were in the pool at the time, warming up for the meet. A hockey game was also going on in the complex. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bestiality charges laid in B.C.

A 38-year-old Vancouver man has been ordered to stand trial for bestiality.

Brian Anthony Cutteridge will be in B.C. Supreme Court on March 14 to set a trial date. The allegations against him have not been proved and he is presumed innocent. Marcie Moriarty, head of the B.C. SPCA's cruelty-investigations department, said

the association began investigating Cutteridge in 2010 after being tipped off that he was allegedly engaging in sexual activities with his dog.

There were reports Sunday that a vet alerted the animal-welfare agency because of an infection one dog had, but Moriarty would not confirm or deny this information.

"Unfortunately, the actual act is not as uncommon as we'd like to think, but ... having a case go before a court and having charges accepted is more rare."

● METRO

Guinness. Record



► Nepal's Chandra Bahadur Dangi poses with his certificates after being declared the world's shortest living man and shortest man ever by the Guinness Book of Records at a ceremony in Katmandu on Sunday.

NIRANJAN SHRESTHA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nepalese senior crowned world's shortest

The 72-year-old man was measured at just 54.6 centimetres tall, snatching the title from Junrey Balawing of the Philippines, who is 60 centimeters tall.

Family appeals for Titanic letter

\$50K The letter is expected to fetch at least \$50,000 US at auction later this week.

The descendants of a surgeon who died on the Titanic nearly 100 years ago are appealing for a benefactor to purchase a soon-to-be-

auctioned letter he wrote from the doomed ship — and to return it to Belfast, where the vessel was built.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Colombia	3 ⁹	Mexico	1 ⁹	Trinidad	4 ⁹
Cuba	89 ⁹	Pakistan	5 ⁹	U.A.E	14 ⁹
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Germany	1 ⁹	Poland	1 ⁹	U.K	2 ⁹

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Death toll climbs in Qur'an riots

► Afghan ministers call off trip to Washington ► Leaders meeting on how to stop violence

Demonstrators hurled grenades at a U.S. base in northern Afghanistan, and a gun battle left two Afghans dead and seven NATO troops injured on Sunday in the escalating crisis over the burning of Muslim holy books at a U.S. airfield.

More than 30 people have been killed, including four U.S. troops, in six days of unrest. Still, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan said the violence would not change Washington's course.

"This is not the time to decide that we're done here," Ryan Crocker said. "We have got to redouble our efforts. We've got to create a situation in which al-Qaida is not coming

Not enough

► President Barack Obama and other U.S. officials have apologized for the Qur'an burnings, but this has not quelled the anger of Afghans, who say it shows disrespect for their culture and religion.

back."

The attack on the base came a day after two U.S. military advisers were killed at the Interior Ministry in Kabul. The Taliban say the shooter was one of their sympathizers and that an accomplice helped him get into the compound to kill the Americans in retaliation for the Qur'an burnings. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Chain. Reaction



► Russians stand united during an opposition protest along Moscow's Garden Ring on Sunday.

SERGEY PONOMAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Let's have a hand for reform

Thousands of people joined hands to form a 16-kilometre human chain around central Moscow in the latest protest against Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. Activists estimated that they needed 34,000 people to complete the chain along the Garden Ring, and they appeared to have succeeded, or come close.

Canada calls off Afghan meetings

Recall

- NATO and Britain recalled their advisers from Afghan ministries late Saturday after two U.S. advisers were killed.
- The pair, whose names have not been released, were shot in the back of the head.
- Afghan authorities said Sunday that they have identified a suspect and launched a manhunt.

Canada has suspended all meetings in Afghan ministries after the slaying of two U.S. military advisers.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Yohan Rodericks said the move was taken as a security precaution. He said all Canadian staff are safe and accounted for.

It isn't known how long the meetings will be on hold, but Rodericks said officials are keeping a close eye on the situation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese netizens 'occupy' Obama

Chinese are flooding a web page of President Barack Obama's re-election cam-

paign with comments, after China seemingly lifted a firewall. What some are calling "Occupy Obama" began early last week on Google+ and quickly reached a torrent. Most of the comments seem purely for fun. Some ask for green cards, while many call for the end of Communist Party rule. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Setting the Record Straight

Throughout last week, HRM was negotiating a new offer with ATU in good faith. ATU was involved every step of the way. See for yourself.

Monday, February 20:

HRM contacts ATU to meet.

Tuesday, February 21:

ATU tells HRM the conciliator will get the two sides together on Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, February 22:

Metro Transit Director Eddie Robar and ATU President Ken Wilson meet with conciliators and reach a tentative deal with a list of agreed-to items including rostering and wages.

HRM and ATU shake on the tentative agreement.

HRM creates "Memorandum of Understanding" on rostering.

ATU requests Regional Council present tentative agreement to membership as an offer

Thursday, February 23:

ATU and HRM finalize wording on rostering Memorandum of Understanding.

Council ratifies final offer for presentation to the union.

Final package mailed to ATU.

- A five-year collective agreement that includes rostering and wage restructuring (offsets), with provisions that will let the union participate in how rostering would be established
- A first-year \$1,500 lump sum payment to all ATU employees
- Wage increases of 2.25% in each of the subsequent four years

Friday, February 24:

ATU executive presents final offer to members – 78% of ATU members reject the offer.

ATU Local 508 is holding your transit system hostage to get what they want - binding arbitration, no rostering and unchecked overtime costs. Don't let them do it.

It's now up to the union to determine when we are able to return transit service to the citizens of HRM. If you agree, call the ATU office at 455-2040 to let them know how you feel.



Need help keeping warm this winter?

The province has removed the provincial portion of the HST from home heating bills, but you may be eligible for more savings!

For more information and to see if you qualify for a home heating rebate:

 **Visit:** homeheatinghelp.ca

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NDP candidates wooing the West

► Party members begin voting for leader March 1 via mail or Internet, or at leadership convention March 23-24

The seven people vying to lead the NDP are vowing to woo the West to form Canada's next government.

In a debate held in Winnipeg on Sunday, NDP leadership candidates said they must do better than the three seats they now hold on the Prairies.

The party may have essentially been born in the region but candidate Thomas Mulcair said that isn't enough.

"Here on the Prairies, we have the deepest roots but very few trees," he said.

In Quebec, Mulcair said it's the opposite, where the party has many trees

50%

Final membership numbers released Feb. 20 by the party show membership has swelled to 128,351, an increase of just over 50 per cent since the start of the leadership contest last October.

with weak roots that could be knocked over with a strong wind. The only way the party can build on its success in the last election, he continued, is to hold on to those seats in Quebec and con-

vince westerners that the NDP is capable of "good public administration."

Much of the party is still "rooted in the past" and must zero in on the Prairies in much the same way NDP organizers focused on Quebec for the last six years, he said.

"We are not going to defeat Stephen Harper with a slogan," Mulcair said.

Niki Ashton, who holds a seat in Manitoba, said Prime Minister Stephen Harper is taking westerners for granted.

She said the party has to listen to Prairie voters and give them a voice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Berlin. Balloons



► Demonstrators fly balloons in front of the Reichstag building Sunday to protest against arms trade.

AXEL SCHMIDT/DAPD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arms trade likened to hot air

Harper OK's \$22K tab for visiting bureaucrats

Prime Minister Stephen Harper personally approved a \$21,865 hospitality tab for visiting European bureaucrats last fall even as the government was preaching fiscal restraint.

Newly disclosed documents show the three-day meeting featured a welcome reception at the National Gallery of Canada, two lunches, and a formal dinner at Rideau Hall — all of them featuring free wine.

The final tab for the Oct. 18-20 event was almost \$112,000, including travel, hotels, musical entertainment and \$2,250 in gifts for delegates.

Partly because budgeted hospitality costs exceeded

the \$5,000 threshold imposed by government rules, Harper had to personally pre-approve the expected bill as head of the Privy Council Office.

In the end, the final hospitality tab was trimmed to \$16,000, said Raymond Rivet, spokesman for the Privy Council Office. He said the bill for the entire event was far lower than the initial budget of \$300,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



In. Print

► News Corp. chairman and CEO Rupert Murdoch holds the first edition of The Sun on Sunday as it comes off the presses in Broomfield, England.

ARTHUR EDWARDS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New paper for Murdoch

Rupert Murdoch's newest newspaper launched Sunday with a familiar mix of celebrity news, scantily clad women and defiant language. The Sun's Sunday edition hits stands two weeks after five employees were arrested for alleged payment of bribes. The new Sunday tabloid replaces The News of the World.

BP oil-spill trial delayed for talks

A federal trial over the worst offshore oil disaster in U.S. history has been delayed for a week to allow more time for settlement talks, according to two people close to the case.

The two people told The Associated Press the decision was made Sunday during a conference call between parties in the case and U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier. They spoke on condition of anonymity because a formal ruling had not yet been issued.

Among other things, the trial that had been set to begin Monday is meant

to determine the penalties that need to be paid by BP and other companies involved in the massive 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill. Billions of dollars are at stake.

BP PLC confirmed that the trial had been delayed until March 5.

It said the oil giant and the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee were working to reach an agreement that would fairly compensate people and businesses affected by the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion and resulting spill.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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German opposition for Greek bailout

Germany's main opposition leader says his party will strongly back the new Greek rescue package when Parliament votes on the measure Monday. The package is a second bailout of \$173 billion US. Finance

Will Canada lead way to mining on moon?

- Moon has compounds not readily available on Earth
- Lunar-resource drilling may start by end of decade

Canada could play a key role in a new international space race, with the next sprint to the moon gearing up as an extra-terrestrial gold rush.

Industry insiders will be watching closely this week as the heads of the world's five biggest space agencies get together in Quebec City,

where the partners on the International Space Station will discuss more than the future of the orbiting lab.

They will address an idea gaining currency in business and scientific circles: that within human reach lies an unfathomable wealth of resources, some of them common on Earth and others that could change the way we live.

Canada could figure prominently in any discussion about lunar exploration, with nearly one-quarter of the world's top mining companies and robotics like the famous Canadarm.

Several countries, including China, have expressed a desire to start mining the moon's resources. The mining industry is now waiting for the Canadian Space Agency to make its intentions known, while the agency awaits direction



► A prototype of a lunar rover by Neptec Design Group of Ottawa.

from the federal government. The CSA has already begun developing a number of prototype lunar rovers, in co-operation with NASA and several Canadian firms.

The testing of these prototypes on Earth, with special drills for excavating, has already begun and more tests are planned this summer in Hawaii. The next phase would involve building space-bound rovers. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas
- 5.52 (12,725.77)	- 0.21¢ (100.03¢ US)	+ \$1.90 US (\$109.70 US)	\$2.55 US (- 7¢ US)
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TAKING THE MEASURE OF A MAYOR

URBAN COMPASS

STEPHEN KIMBER
METRO HALIFAX



Peter Kelly's final mayoralty meltdown announcement last week was not triggered by any of the many mis-governance issues that should have long since ended his political career.

Ironically, the mayor was ultimately hoist with the petard of his own sloppy-and-perhaps-worse handling of the estate of a friend, a private matter unrelated to his duties as mayor.

It is tempting at moments like these — these “after-27-years-of-public-service-I-have-made-my-contribution-to-the-good-of-the-community-to-the-very-best-of-my-ability-and-it-is-time-to-seek-new-horizons” moments — to seek to be kind too, to acknowledge the toll public service takes on a politician's personal life.

It does. But how many times in his own eye-darting, standup, self-serving, stick-to-the-talking-points farewell interviews did the mayor do it for us: Endlessly lamenting the marriage lost, the 90-hour weeks, the nights sleeping on the office floor?

“Perhaps Peter Kelly's greatest contribution will ultimately have been his decision not to re-offer.”

It is tempting, too, to glorify any soon-to-be-gone politician's accomplishments.

There were a few: Kelly's genuine public apology for the wrongs of Africville, for example, is praiseworthy, as was his success in piloting the harbour-solutions sewage-treatment project to

completion, HRMbyDesign, the Canada Games, the skating oval, the ...

But, after 12 years — for a man who will leave office this fall as Halifax's longest-serving mayor ever — that list is woefully short.

The other side of his ledger is much longer and more damning: The botched Commonwealth Games bid; the concert-gate scandal; the lack of a business case for a new convention centre; the mindless, my-city-is-better-than-Moncton push for a new stadium; the violations of HRM-byDesign; the St. Pat's school-sale fiasco; the endless cat-by-law debates; the dysfunctional council meetings; the secrecy about everything; the refusal to take responsibility for anything ...

Perhaps Peter Kelly's greatest contribution to the future of our city will ultimately have been his decision not to re-offer.

We no longer have to have a referendum on his record.

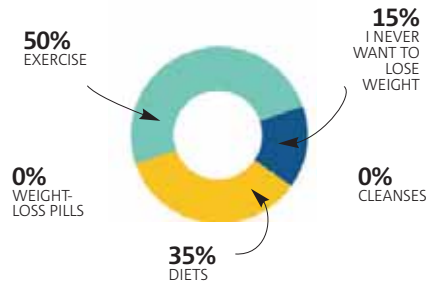
We can begin to have the conversation about our future.

It's time.



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What method do you use
to shed a few pounds?



Local tweets



► @evilpez4:
Our little #transitstrike is 25

days old today. I can remember when it was a baby; small, minor inconvenience. Oh how it's grown. #Halifax

► @CrankyGrampie: How about we allow the bus drivers to have their beloved scheduling system as long as they agree to be on time. #transitstrike

► @BoredinHfx: I don't support union's stand against rostering but I have respect for @hfxtransit drivers & think many comments on

#transitstrike are awful
► @sam_biosis: My basement apartment has no sound-proofing. Landlord is renovating upstairs. Midterms this week. Can't leave because of #transitstrike
► @thisisvjoness: @ladygaga if you came to #Halifax not only would your show sell out but you'd have a sick east-coast time. Remember summer rush 3 years ago?
► @mackayimages: I have a ton of #usedclothing and don't know the best place to take it #halifax any ideas? I'm moving tomorrow.

Daily Zoom



New egg of ancient chikiladae

New amphibian family found

NEW DELHI. An intrepid team of biologists led by University of Delhi professor Sathyabhama Das Biju has identified an entirely new family of amphibians — called chikiladae — endemic to the region since before the age of dinosaurs but with ancient links to Africa. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

2,600 Biju's team worked during monsoon season, when the digging is easier and chikiladae lay eggs in waterlogged soils. Researchers, along with locals they hired, spent about 2,600 hours digging for the elusive squiggly, usually found about 40-centimetres deep.

“It's like a rocket. If you miss it the first try, you'll never catch it again.”

PROFESSOR BIJU DESCRIBES HOW CHIKILADAЕ GROW TO ABOUT 10 CENTIMETRES, AND CAN RAM THEIR HARD SKULLS THROUGH SOME OF THE REGION'S TOUGHER SOILS, SHOOTING OFF QUICKLY AT THE SLIGHTEST VIBRATION.

Prehistoric link

► The chikiladae is a caecilian, the most primitive of three amphibian groups that also include frogs and salamanders.
► Their discovery gives new evidence in the study of prehistoric species migration, as well as evolutionary paths influenced by continental shift.

Hugo, The Artist get love from Oscar

► The Artist takes home best-picture and best-actor statues
► Christopher Plummer wins his first Oscar at 82 ► Meryl Streep adds another trophy to her shelf

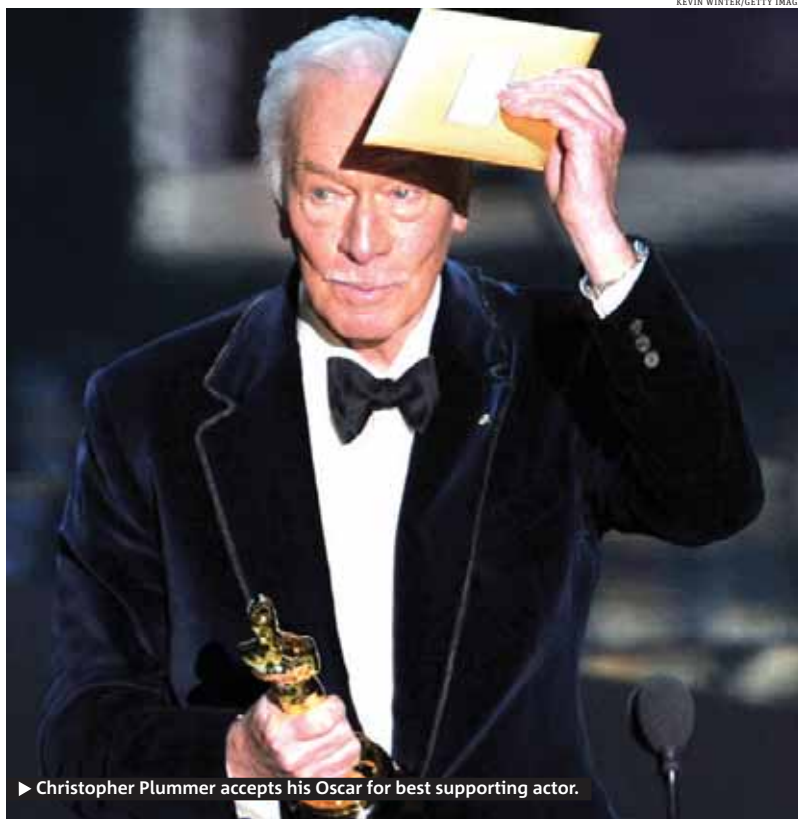


In the major categories, the Academy Awards belonged to the Artist, pulling in five wins, including best actor, best director and best picture, but it wasn't a spotless victory for the silent film.

While many had expected The Artist to sweep this year's Oscars, those hopes were dashed early on as another love letter to film history, Martin Scorsese's Hugo, also brought in five trophies, including Oscars for visual effects, art direction and cinematography. The lack of an Artist sweep was an invigorating boost after a lacklustre start by winning Billy Crystal.

Some odds-on favourites

to win took home statues, including Iran's A Separation for best foreign language film, Octavia Spencer for best supporting actress for her role in The Help and Christopher Plummer for best supporting actor in Beginners. In the heated best-actress race between Meryl Streep for The Iron Lady and Viola Davis for The Help, Streep's portrayal of Margaret Thatcher won the day. "When they called my name, I had this feeling I could hear half of America going, 'Oh no,'" Streep joked. Crystal kicked things off with his traditional montage digitally inserting himself into nominated films. He followed that up with a song-and-dance number summarizing the best-picture nominees that felt in many ways out of touch.



► Christopher Plummer accepts his Oscar for best supporting actor.

Plummer oldest Oscar winner

At the age of 82, stage and screen legend Christopher Plummer finally has an Academy Award. Plummer

won the best-supporting-actor prize Sunday for his turn as a widower who embraces his homosexuality

in Beginners.

The prize makes the actor the oldest Oscar winner.

The Toronto-born actor took issue with that distinction backstage. "I don't buy that for a second," Plummer said.

"Wasn't Charlie Chap-

lin older than me when he got his honorary Oscar? An honorary Oscar is still an Oscar, after all."

THE CANADIAN PRESS/
WITH FILES FROM NED EHRBAR

2

scene

Box office



On Oscar weekend, Act of Valor, starring real, active-duty U.S. Navy SEALs, topped the weekend box office, earning \$24.7 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. Lionsgate's Tyler Perry's Good Deeds opened with \$16 million. Safe House earned \$11.4 million. The other new releases — the thriller Gone and the comedy Wanderlust — had weaker debuts. Wanderlust took \$6.6 million. Gone took in \$5 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Red carpet Stars

► It takes a lot of glamour to stand out on the red carpet at the Oscars ► Or dressing like a dictator...



► George Clooney brings his own golden statue to the Oscars in the form of Stacy Kiebler.



► Michelle Williams looks whimsical in Louis Vuitton.



► Kristen Wiig moves from Saturday Night Live to Oscar red carpet with ease.



► Every red carpet needs the Pitt-Jolies.



► After dressing as a man for Albert Nobbs, Glenn Close channels her feminine side.



► Octavia Spencer stuns in Tadashi Shoji.



► Sacha Baron Cohen arrives on the red carpet his character General Aladeen.

Up and down

Metro Canada offers up its take on the best and the worst of this year's Oscar broadcast

Billy Crystal

The nine-time Oscar host did what he did best, spoofing the best picture nominees, with a little help from George Clooney, Justin Bieber and Tom Cruise. It was like an old, slightly campy, great uncle stopping in for a visit and pulling a quarter from behind your ear.

Funny focus group

The Wizard of Oz focus group, featuring some of the cast of Best In Show and Waiting for Guffman, proved the Oscars can be funny, with their analysis of the classic film: more flying monkeys, less Dorothy.



Meryl Streep

We love Meryl, but after 17 nominations you think she would know what to wear to the Oscars. Her dress looked like it was rescued from the Carol Burnett Show. It's 'curtains' for her stylist.

Sacha Baron Cohen

Dressed as the alter-ego from his new film, The Dictator, Baron Cohen lived up to his unpredictability by bringing the supposed ashes of Kim Jung-il as his red carpet date. Spilling the ashes on E! host Ryan Seacrest, he sunk to a new self-promoting low. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, without press, Baron Cohen's career will rust. **METRO**

Oscar tweets



@magicandrew:

Oscars + @justinbieber = I think a server just melted somewhere inside of Twitter.

@AngryBlackLady:

Clooney and Crystal kissed. Santorum just had an aneurysm.

@mariosundar:

I love you @BillyCrystal but your song-and-dance monologue seemed so archaic. Even Clooney seemed thoroughly confused!

@RajeevMasand:

Sandra Bullock announces Best Foreign Lang Film nominee — will be so happy to see Iran's A Separation win. So deserving.

Celebrity tweets



Just bought a used gas centrifuge on Ebay. If neighbor does not quiet dog I will build nuclear weapon. #fairwarning



@AlbertBrooks

Vampire Diaries has been a minor obsession of mine this month!! I've watched every episode!! Ok, so maybe it isn't a minor obsession.. Ha

@JessicaSimpson



@SarahKSilverman



I just said "granola" too many times & now I have no idea what it means or how I ever knew it



@DanaGould

I'm working with a human rights group that takes winos off of skid row and releases them back into the wine country.

Demi is on the mend, says source

Demi Moore's stay at a rehab facility in Utah is apparently doing the trick, according to In Touch.

"She is totally committed to getting better," a friend of the actress says, adding that Moore is now weighing in at more than 100 pounds. The 49-year-old has reportedly gained 10 pounds while in rehab and is

eating three meals a day. "Demi has a long way to go, but she is getting better," the source says. "She has many days where she feels great."

METRO



Demi Moore

Gerard Butler was on a bit of a tear

Gerard Butler spent the last three weeks in rehab to address an alleged prescription painkiller problem, according to Radar Online.

"Gerard has completed a successful course of treatment and has returned home in good health," his rep said in a statement. "We will not be making any further comment at this time."

Butler reportedly developed a painkiller dependency in 2006 after filming 300. As for other substances, the actor recently told the Red Bulletin that he's toned things down considerably.

"I am a single successful Scottish actor in a city full of beautiful women, and I will admit to having the

time of my life," he said.

"I'm very well behaved these days as a lot of the naughty stuff was when I was drinking." METRO



Gerard Butler

Adam Sandler earns 11 Razzie nominations

Actor earns the dubious honour of rocking this year's worst movies

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONWS.CA


While the world continues their celebration of the Oscars and the best and brightest in Hollywood, let's take a moment to look at the worst.

Specifically, poor, poor Adam Sandler, who is saddled with the sad honour of earning 11 Razzie nominations for his various work as an actor, a writer and a producer on three movies for 2011: Jack and Jill, Bucky Larson: Born to Be a Star and Just Go With It.

Sandler received two worst actor nominations, one for Just Go With It and another for Jack and Jill.

Oh, and he also received a worst actress nod for Jack and Jill — if anything, at least he's breaking gender barriers.

Luckily, he's not alone: his Jack and Jill co-stars, Katie Holmes and Al Pacino, each received a worst supporting actress and worst supporting actor nomination for their work in that film, respectively. (Way to bring down Pacino, Sandler.)

It's time for Sandler to pick up a copy of the 1998 edition of Stop with the Fart Jokes: Transform Your Career and Become an Oscar Winner in No Time by Tom Hanks. Soon, he'll be starring in Punch Drunk Love II: Still Drankin', where he and Emily Watson end up adopting a middle-aged deaf, mute, and blind train hobo who teaches them the true meaning of life.



Adam Sandler and Katie Holmes at the premiere of the Razzie-nominated Jack and Jill last November in California.

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► Women may want to find out their baby's gender for both practical and psychological reasons.

Did you find out the sex?

► It's a boy! It's a girl! It's a... surprise! ► Where some people stand on learning the truth early

Six months into her pregnancy, the fashionable Julia Restoin-Roitfeld does not know the sex of her baby — and she has no intention of finding out. Her mom, former Vogue Paris editor Carine Roitfeld, is mighty impressed: “[Julia] doesn’t want to know. I’m very proud of her, because me, I

would not be able to do that. But you know, in a way, today you can know everything about anything, and to refuse to know I think is quite chic.”

So apparently not finding out the sex of your baby is “chic.” Who knew?

Carine also has no intention of baking cookies or

knitting booties any time soon. “I don’t think it’s my thing,” she said with a laugh. Gotta love her for telling it like it is!

But back to the gender discussion. My friends are pretty split down the middle when it comes to finding out the sex of their baby. I personally was

tempted to find out with both my kids but never did because I figured there are so few surprises left these days. But I know countless women who were dying to know if they were having a boy or a girl ASAP — both for practical reasons and for psychological ones, too.

One friend, for example, always planned to have two children. So after she gave birth to a boy and got pregnant with her second, she decided to find out the baby’s gender during a 20-week ultrasound. “If it was a boy, I wanted to know,” she tells me, “so that I wouldn’t be disappointed.”

Clearly, this is a woman who always wanted a little girl, though she was and still is beyond grateful for her two wonderful boys. “I just wanted to prepare myself, emotionally. I knew that this would be it and so

if I was never going to have a daughter, I would rather find out in advance than right there on the table. It gave me time to come to terms with it all.”

I’ve also noticed that many couples are divided on whether or not to find out the sex of their baby.

One pregnant woman I know, already mom to two boys, was so curious that she found out behind her husband’s back — then feigned surprise when it was a girl (ha!).

Then there are those women who find out by accident because their doctor uses “he” or “she” to describe the baby in a way that’s just way too obvious.

Sounds crazy, I know, but this has happened to many friends. And, let me say, they were less than pleased.

SHAWNA COHEN, MOMMYISH.COM

3

life

Mogul mom



Former model Kathy Ireland, a mother and author of three children’s books, has been named by Forbes as the wealthiest supermodel on the planet.

Forbes recognized the iconic model for raking in the most cash through her brands, beating out domestic diva Martha Stewart. According to the magazine, Ireland sold “an astounding \$2 billion worth of licensed products at retail...”

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Motherhood and curling: A juggling act at the Canadian women’s championship.

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Green from ground up

► Students trying to build Canada's greenest home from scratch

BEN KNIGHT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Many Canadians undertake renovation projects to make their houses greener and cleaner. But what would be possible if you built an entire eco-friendly home — from scratch?

Twenty students from the Endeavour Centre in Peterborough, Ontario, will find out this summer, when they set out to build Canada's greenest home.

"We're a not-for-profit sustainable building school," says executive director Chris Magwood.

"We're aiming for this to be a net-energy-zero home. It will create as much energy as it consumes over the course of a year. The homeowner will actually earn money on



► Students are trying to show that you can build a truly green home from scratch.

the power."

Solar panels on the roof are just the beginning.

The 2,000-square-foot house will be built entirely from locally sourced materials.

It will also be built on an existing lot, so as not to add to urban sprawl.

"Basically, the way people talk about the hundred-mile diet, we really approach home-building that way, too," Magwood explains.

"To the greatest extent possible, all the materials and people who prepare them will come from the immediate region."

Local sawmills will produce all the lumber.

And materials won't be treated with toxins or other questionable chemicals.

The house will also be built to process rainwater, and recycle household grey water.

O The annual net energy use possible in a properly constructed, eco-friendly house — with a solar-panel electrical system connected directly to the local power grid.

"The quality of the water, the air, the light in the home is really important to us."

When completed, the house will immediately go on the market.

Construction costs will be a little higher than a regular two-storey home, but future savings in energy and water costs will offer real savings to the eventual owner.

Magwood is confident houses like this will be-

come a lot more common in the not-to-distant future.

"I first started doing this 15 years ago, when these kinds of ideas were so far out on the fringe that it was hard to even have a conversation with normal people or with builders about it," he says.

"And now, the whole industry feels like it's racing to catch up in that direction."

The students who build the house will come from all kinds of backgrounds.

Space in the program is still available.

"Things are always doable if you throw enough time and money at them," Magwood concludes.

"But you want to make sure it's also repeatable, affordable and available."

For more information, visit endeavourcentre.org.

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Scaling the heights of success

► Paul Griffith is teaching others to go above and beyond for the less fortunate with his business Over the Edge

TURNING POINT

TERESA KRUIZE
LIFE@METRONews.ca



For the past eight years, Paul Griffith has been pushing people out of their comfort zone and Over the Edge. And he couldn't be happier.

Griffith and his highly skilled team run events where people rappel down tall buildings and raise money for charity. His Halifax-based business has become so popular they've expanded to the U.S., and have now set a goal to raise 50 million dollars for non-profit or-



► Paul Griffith, President and CEO of Over the Edge.

ganizations in the next 10 years.

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- Don't worry too much about money. Create the opportunity and the money will follow if it's a good idea.
- For more info, visit overtheedgeusa.com.

"It makes it so much easier to go to work every day knowing you're making a difference. We're here to serve and do good things for others."

PAUL GRIFFITH

here to serve and do good things for others."

Growing up in P.E.I., Griffith was 10 when he asked his parents for new goalie pads. They told him they would only pay for half so Paul went to a local farm, purchased strawberries for 25 cents a box, loaded up his wagon and sold them to the

neighbourhood for one dollar.

"After a week I had enough money for my goalie pads and I officially retired from my first business" he says with a laugh.

In the coming months, Griffith and his team will be travelling across Canada to stage at least 10

Over the Edge events, including one in Toronto in May. They are challenging people to rappel down City Hall in aid of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"We've asked the corporate world to step outside of their comfort zone and go over the edge. When you look at the barriers people face through sickness or disease it's an easy thing to do."

GOOD BUSINESS

BOOK REVIEW

CRAIG LUND
LIFE@METRONews.ca



Screw Business As Usual
By Richard Branson,
Virgin Books,
\$26.95,
357 pages

With a title like *Screw Business As Usual* coming from the likes of Sir Richard Branson, emperor of the Virgin Group, you come to expect that, though off the cuff, there is likely some sound advice on the way.

Branson's key message is clear: "doing good is good for business." Eschewing old school capitalism, Branson outlines his vision of what modern capitalism should look like. He calls it Capitalism 24902, a model that looks beyond profits, but looks at how businesses should shape themselves to benefit the globe.

"It's not OK that nearly half the world's popula-

tion lives on less than \$2 a day" says Branson.

In Branson's opinion, change needs to come from the ordinary person. "I'm talking about the power of the ordinary everyday person to become entrepreneurs and change makers." He alludes to the shift in communications access and transparency, in a day and age where anyone can share their opinion publicly and be heard.

One of the most touching examples Branson gives takes place in South Africa. In his book he talks about Virgin Unite, the Charity arm to the Virgin Group, and how they established the Branson Centre for Entrepreneurship in Johannesburg.

I don't use the 'L word' too often, but I have to in this case. Branson's energy and passion is dripping from this book. I loved every word, and feel inspired to take on his call for change.

CRAIG LUND, IS THE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING SERVICES FIRM MARKETING TALENT INC. AND CAN BE REACHED AT CLUND@MARKETINGTALENTINC.COM OR ON TWITTER @CRAIGLUND

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4
sports

Quoted



"We think this man is ready to play in the NHL at some point here, whether he plays right away or not we'll determine that as we go forward."

SENATORS GENERAL MANAGER BRYAN MURRAY AFTER ACQUIRING GOALTENDER BEN BISHOP SUNDAY FROM THE ST. LOUIS BLUES IN EXCHANGE FOR A SECOND-ROUND PICK IN THE 2013 DRAFT.



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Scotties. Champions



► Alberta skip Heather Nedohin, centre, celebrates her gold medal win over B.C. with lead Laine Peters, from left, third Beth Iskiw and second Jessica Mair at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Red Deer, Alta. Peters has previously won Nova Scotia Scotties with Heather Smith-Dacey and Kay Zinck and served as an alternate for Colleen Jones's world championship teams, while Iskiw hails from Truro.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Albertans slide to curling glory

Alberta's Heather Nedohin won the Canadian women's curling championship with a 7-6 win over B.C.'s Kelly Scott on Sunday. Nedohin, third Beth Iskiw, second Jessica Mair and lead Laine Peters will represent Canada at the world championship next month in Lethbridge, Alta.

Herd building confidence

► Mooseheads top Memorial Cup hosts on Saturday to win sixth of past eight games ► 16-year-old Zach Fucale posts 27th win of rookie season



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

With the QMJHL playoffs around the corner, the Halifax Mooseheads are showing they can hang with the heavyweights.

The Mooseheads won for the sixth time in the past eight games on Saturday afternoon at the Metro Centre, taking down the then first-place Shawinigan Cataractes 3-2 before a season-high crowd of 9,315.

Combined with two wins over the fifth-place Victoriaville Tigres and another over the eighth-place Chicoutimi Saguenéens,

"It's an absolutely great feeling — a lot of emotions in that game. I think with this win we proved we can compete with any team in the league."

MOOSEHEADS GOALTENDER ZACH FUCALE AFTER STOPPING 32 SHOTS AND EARNING FIRST-STAR HONOURS IN SATURDAY'S 3-2 WIN OVER SHAWINIGAN

the younger Mooseheads are finding success against veteran teams that bolstered their rosters at the trade deadline.

"Deep down, we always knew we had it in us to play toe-to-toe with those teams," said Mooseheads centre Brent Andrews. "Now that we have, and we've played well against them, it's really a big confidence booster for everyone

in the dressing room to know we can do well."

It's exactly what the Mooseheads needed after starting the new year with a miserable 4-6-2 record, and it's a great sign for their playoff hopes with just nine games remaining in the regular season.

They currently sit seventh overall, but trail the sixth-place Rimouski Oceanic by just a point and

have two games in hand.

The Mooseheads, who have enjoyed their recent success without the benefit of top-pairing blue-liner Sawyer Hannay, rode solid team defence and the sharp goaltending of rookie Zach Fucale to victory on Sunday.

"That was one of the most complete games we've played all year," Andrews said. "If we can keep going like that down the stretch, we can definitely make a good push in the playoffs."

The Mooseheads (34-19-6) play six of their final nine games on the road starting Wednesday against the Gatineau Olympiques.



► Lawrence Wright

Home court edge a win away for Rainmen

The Halifax Rainmen are in the driver's seat in the battle for home-court advantage against the Quebec Kebs in the National Basketball League of Canada semifinals.

The Rainmen won their third straight game on Sunday and second in four days against Quebec with a 127-75 walloping of the host Kebs, putting them in second overall via the tiebreaking formula with a 21-12 record.

The third-place Kebs (22-13) need to win their final regular season game to have a chance at home court in the best-of-three semifinal, while the Rainmen can wrap it up either way with just one win in their final three contests.

"Home court is very important, especially playing a good team like Quebec," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston. "They're a good basketball team. Good teams win in their home gyms and it gives us the advantage in front of our home crowd. I'm excited about the possibility."

Lawrence Wright's 22 points led the way as the Rainmen set the NBL Canada record for margin of victory with a 52-point spread.

The Rainmen can clinch second overall when they visit the Moncton Miracles on Monday at 7 p.m.

● MATTHEW WUEST

Dal to open Final 6 vs. Capers

The matchups are set for the Final 6 Atlantic University Sport men's basketball championship this coming weekend at the Metro Centre.

The Dalhousie Tigers, seeded fifth, will take on the No. 4 Cape Breton Ca-

pers on Friday at 6 p.m., while the sixth-place Saint Mary's Huskies will face the third-seeded UPEI Panthers in the following contest at 8:15 p.m.

The first-place St. Francis Xavier X-Men and second-place Acadia Axemen have

byes to Saturday's semifinals. The championship game is Sunday at 2 p.m.

The women's AUS championship will be hosted in Antigonish, with third-seeded Saint Mary's drawing No. 6 Dalhousie in Friday's 8 p.m. quarter-final. ● METRO

Sports in brief

Huskies earn home spit to open semifinal

AUS HOCKEY. Cam Fergus and Gerrad Grant led Saint Mary's with two

goals apiece on the weekend as the Huskies split their two Atlantic University Sport men's hockey semifinal games with the Moncton Aigles Bleus at the Halifax Forum. Saint Mary's beat Moncton 6-2 on Friday but lost 3-1 Saturday. The series shifts to Moncton for the next two games starting Wednesday. ● METRO

NHL trade rumour matrix

You're bound to hear many player names mentioned in NHL trade deadline day rumours, but what is the likelihood any of them changing teams? And are they short or long-term fixes? Hockey News writer Adam Proteau plots it out.

Long-term solution



CORY SCHNEIDER, G, CANUCKS

Has outstanding future, which is why Vancouver won't move him until summer, if at all.



LUKE SCHENN, D, MAPLE LEAFS
Blue-liner has struggled this year, could use change of scenery. Signed through 2016.



RICK NASH, RW, BLUE JACKETS
Columbus is moving their star, but Nash controls his destination. Decent chance he may not be dealt until the entry draft in summer.

DEREK ROY, C, SABRES
Veteran has had brutal year and may be sacrificial lamb for even worse Sabres season. Has one year left on his contract.



ZACH PARISE, LW, DEVILS
Star winger will be top prize on UFA market this summer, but surging Devils need him this year.



TEEMU SELANNE, RW, DUCKS
Future Hall-of-Famer adores Anaheim and Ducks love him.



FILIP KUBA, D, SENATORS
Ottawa defender has had bounce-back year, but soon-to-be-UFA won't be moved unless Sens get young prospects back.

EVGENI NABOKOV, G, ISLANDERS
Isles trying to re-sign veteran, but will deal him as short-term fix if they can't.



RYAN SUTER, D, PREDATORS
Preds may retain elite D-man, an unrestricted free agent this summer. If he is traded, the team landing him will want to sign him long-term, but no guarantees there.

OLLI JOKINEN, C, FLAMES
Flames may not make playoffs and leading point-getter Jokinen is a UFA at season's end.



DWAYNE ROLOSON, G, LIGHTNING
41-year-old soon-to-be UFA was MVP for Bolts last post-season, but hasn't looked nearly as dominant.



Short-term fix

Unlikely to move

Likely to move



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Crossword

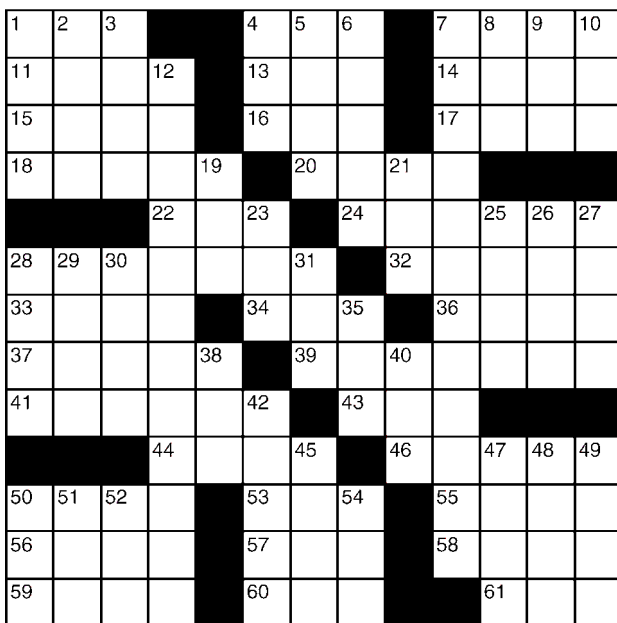
Across

1 Vim and vigor
4 Had breakfast
7 Acceptable
11 Rowing props
13 Bagel topper
14 Pleasant
15 Seniors' big event
16 Mischievous tyke
17 Paradise
18 Provide with funds
20 Seethe
22 Barbie's cohort
24 Ruins the shoe polish
28 Custodian
32 Grin
33 Portent
34 "Holy mackerel!"
36 Surveyor's map
37 Suit material that draws lint
39 Rocket launcher
41 Stuck up
43 "Le Coq —"
44 Picnic spoiler
46 Playful water critter

50 Primary
53 — and caboodle
55 Dry riverbed
56 As well
57 Compass pt.
58 Japanese sashes
59 Rhett Butler's closing word
60 Caribbean or Mediterranean
61 Witness

Down

1 Vatican VIP
2 Deserve
3 Poke
4 Boxer Muhammad

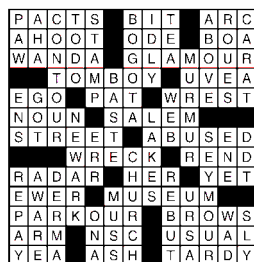


5 "Who's buried in Grant's —?"
6 Erstwhile Montreal baseball team
7 54-Down server's query
8 Tease
9 High card
10 Longing
12 Headwaiter's obsolescent query
19 Drenched
21 Suffix with robot
23 Present
25 Flaky pastry dough (Var.)
26 Anti-aircraft ar-

tillery
27 Bristle
28 R&B singer Stone
29 Prayer ending
30 Infamous fiddler
31 Steal from
35 Bankroll
38 Greek vowel
40 Menagerie
42 "OMG!"
45 Day shift start
47 Keep — on (watch)
48 Actress Falco
49 Get up
50 Angry
51 — carte
52 Doctrine

54 See 7-Down

► Friday's answer



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20

Put small issues out of your mind and focus only on the things that matter.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21

Don't worry if you've been finding it hard to get along with someone because as from tomorrow your minds will be on the same wavelength again.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21

If there is something you need done, something that is so important it really can't wait, you're going to have to do it yourself.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22

If you let others set the rules of the game they will inevitably fix them

so they win and you lose.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23

Think long and hard before ending an association that may not be easy to revive again in the future.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Loved ones are extremely demanding at the moment and if you get through the day without raising your voice you will have done well.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Take it easy now because the next few days could be busier than you anticipated, especially on the work front.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

According to the planets someone is being less than honest with you

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

about what they are planning.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Why are you worrying about something over which you have no control? There's no logic to it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Take a break from your busy schedule and give some thought to the direction your life seems to be heading.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

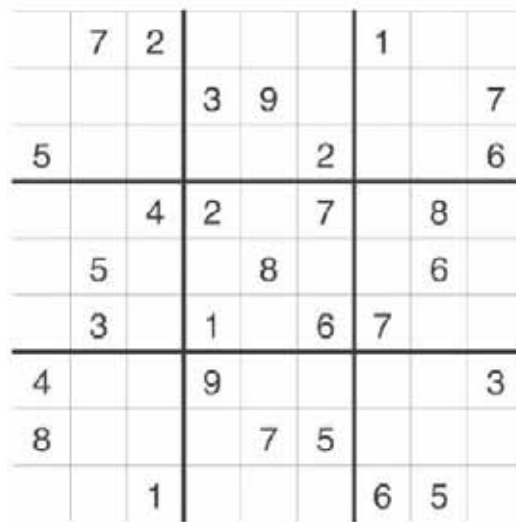
You are attaching too much importance to other people's opinions.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

If someone is wasting your time then you must allow yourself to get angry.

● SALLY BROMPTON

Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

► Friday's answer



Today

-4°/-7°
Variable

Tuesday

-1°/-7°
10+cm of snow
90%

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.

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Caption contest



You write it!
WIN! Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.

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